

RIBAInteriors

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DENTAL TREATMENT: Richard Mitzman's dentist, London (p30).



TECHNICAL: 100% Design (p42).



TECHNICAL: Screed floors (p45).

PHOTO: CHRIS GASCOIGNE

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Your next RIBAInteriors arrives with December's RIBAJournal.

COVER: Atrium of M&C Saatchi's new hq in central London by Harper Mackay. Photo: Chris Gascoigne



Simon Conder (48) has achieved an extraordinary apartment for pop singer Sade's keyboard player, analysed in this issue. Conder started his practice in 1984 and is presently working on an art gallery in Sussex and a factory in Dorset.
Page 18



Designer Susan Minter (40) first worked for French Connection ten years ago. Now she runs her own design consultancy and has returned to the same client to create one of its new showrooms in central London.
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Richard Mitzman (52) should find designing dentists' surgeries easy - check out the one in this issue - as he practised as one for 20 years. Then he chucked it all in to retrain as an architect and is due to get his part II this autumn.
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Hugh Broughton (32), whose refurbishment of a basement flat is reviewed, previously worked for Troughton McAslan Architects and researched setting up a Spanish base for YRM. His practice is working on a building for the Girl Guides.
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That dental moment

Richard Mitzman's dental surgery is informed by his experience as a dentist. **John Welsh** reports

To qualify for one profession would seem sensible. To qualify for a second would seem a mistake. But that is the choice of Richard Mitzman who qualified as a dentist in 1967. Thirty years later, he is due to gain his part II in architecture after retraining part-time at the University of North London.

So it is ironic that after such effort to change tack, Mitzman's most successful work has been a series of dentists' surgeries. It kicked off with Marks & Spencer's staff facilities and has culminated in a new sleek home for a children's practice in a refurbished, two-storey, late-Victorian house in Weymouth Street, London W1.

Mitzman, when a dentist, was well known, lecturing widely on good practice management. What this means in lay terms is an attention to hygiene in a climate of public fear of infection. Such concerns have to be catered for efficiently both in terms of cost and time. Mitzman's strategy for this surgery was two-pronged.

The facilities are spread across two floors. Each has two dentists' workstations, separated by etched glass partitions. The reception is beside the street entrance with a play area for kids beside it. Other facilities include an area to teach good toothbrushing and the full panoply of X-ray and consulting rooms.

Mitzman's goal was to have as little clutter as possible within each dentist's suite, thereby reducing the number of places on which germs could breed. Each room has glass cupboards and shelves, the material readily showing its dirt but also easily being kept clean. A mobile trolley under the shelf contains a computer and used instruments.

Each suite boasts two chairs, the logic being that one can be swabbed down while the other is in use, thus saving time. The practice is commonplace in the USA but has barely caught on in the UK.

Mitzman might not have fled the world of dentistry. But already three patients' parents have asked him to look at their ownhomes, having sat in the waiting room.

Dentists' suites are neatly divided by glass partitions (right) while each suite has two chairs for maximum efficiency and hygiene (opposite, right). The tooth-brush teaching area is in the former conservatory (opposite, left).

CREDITS

Client John Roberts, Brian Selwyn-Barnett
Consultant architect Jeffrey Howard
Surveyor Lamberts



PHOTOS: CHRIS GASCOIGNE

Cost Specification

External works	£50,000
Internal works	£300,000
Total area	880m²

Works

General.	Cost £200,000
Electrical, heating, plumbing.	Cost £62,000

Flooring

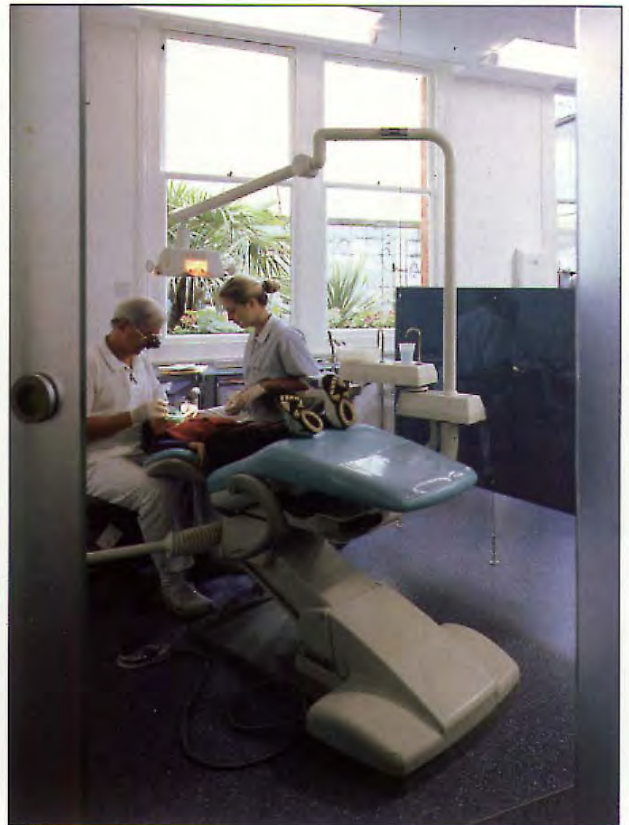
Charter Marketing (reader enquiry no 4001), Freudenberg (enquiry no 4002), Wicanders wood strip (no 4003), Classic Contract Broadloom Carpet (no 4004).	Cost £10,000
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Fixtures

Glass partitions from Optima (enquiry no 4005).	Cost £25,000
Lighting from Zumtobel (no 4006). Glass shelving from T&W Ide (no 4007) and supports from HC Slingsby (no 4008).	Cost £5,000

Furnishings

Furniture from Techno (enquiry no 4009). Trolleys from Ruth Aram Shop (enquiry no 4010). Dental equipment from Wright Dentals (enquiry no 4011).	Cost £33,000
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Cupboards are double-fronted, giving access from suites and preparation areas (left). Trolleys loaded with computers and instruments are placed under glass shelves (left, below).



KEY TO FLOORPLANS
 1 Entrance and reception
 2 Play area
 3 Dentist suites
 4 Consulting rooms
 5 Sterilising
 6 Toothbrush teaching



First-floor plan.



Ground-floor plan.